

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method of starting a brushless DC motor including an armature coil in a stator and field magnets in a rotor, comprising:
 - selecting a first starting waveform from a plurality of stored waveforms;
 - supplying a starting current having said selected first starting waveform for said armature coil while said rotor is in a stationary state;
 - measuring an induced voltage induced in said armature coil by rotation of said rotor wherein said rotation is caused by said starting current; and
 - supplying a drive current for said armature coil in response to said induced voltage.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said supplying said drive current includes:
 - determining a position of said rotor based on said induced voltage, and
 - deciding said drive current based on said position.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said measuring is executed after said supplying said starting current.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said measuring is executed during said supplying said starting current.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said supplying said starting current includes:

selecting a second starting waveform from said plurality of waveforms; and
~~supplying another starting current for said armature coil, and~~
supplying said another starting current having said second starting waveform
when said rotor is not rotated by said ~~another~~ starting current having said first starting waveform, and
~~said starting current and said another starting current have different waveforms each other.~~

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
detecting a direction of said rotation; and
stopping said rotor when said direction is not a desirable direction.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said supplying said drive current includes:

continuously supplying a ~~first~~ said drive current for said armature coil ~~til~~ during a first phase, until a speed of said rotation becomes a predetermined speed, said ~~first~~ drive current being determined based on said induced voltage during said first phase, and
supplying a ~~second~~ said drive current for said armature coil during a second phase after said ~~continuously supplying said first drive current~~ first phase, a current flow duration of said ~~second~~ drive current being controlled based on said speed during said second phase.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said supplying said drive current includes:

supplying ~~a first~~ said drive current for said armature coil during a first phase such that said rotor is rotated with a maximum torque, ~~and~~ until a speed of said rotation becomes a predetermined speed; and

supplying ~~a second~~ said drive current for said armature coil during a second phase after said ~~supplying said first drive current~~ first phase, a current flow duration of said second drive current being controlled based on said speed during said second phase.

9. (Currently amended) A brushless DC motor comprising:

an armature including an armature coil;

a rotor including a plurality of field magnets;

a power supply unit arranged to supply current to said armature coil; and

a measuring unit, wherein said power supply unit supplies a starting current for said armature coil while said rotor is in a stationary state, said starting current having a waveform selected from a plurality of stored waveforms, and

said measuring unit measures an induced voltage induced in said armature coil by rotation of said rotor, said rotation being caused by said starting current, and

said power supply unit supplies a drive current for said armature coil in response to said induced voltage.

10. (Original) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said power supply unit determines a position of said rotor based on said induced voltage, and decides said drive current based on said position.

11. (Original) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said measuring unit measures said induced voltage after said power supply unit finishes supplying said starting current.

12. (Original) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said measuring unit measures said induced voltage while said power supply unit supplies said starting current.

13. (Original) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said power supply unit supplies another starting current for said armature coil, and supplies said starting current when said rotor is not rotated by said another starting current, said starting current and said another starting current having different waveforms each other.

14. (Original) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said power supply unit detects a direction of said rotation, and stops supplying said drive current when said direction is not a desirable direction.

15. (Currently amended) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said power supply unit continuously supplies said drive current for said armature coil ~~till~~ until a speed of said rotation becomes a predetermined speed, said drive current being determined based on said induced voltage, and

said power supply unit supplies said drive current for said armature coil, controlling a current flow duration of said drive current based on said speed after said speed becomes said predetermined speed,

16. (Currently amended) The brushless DC motor according to claim 9, wherein said power supply unit supplies said drive current for said armature coil during a first phase such that said rotor is rotated with a maximum torque, ~~till~~ until a speed of said rotation becomes a predetermined speed, and

said power supply unit supplies said drive current for said armature coil during a second phase after said ~~supplying said first drive current~~ first phase, controlling a current flow duration of said drive current based on said speed during said second phase.